

Necessity of Moral or Religious Sense in Formation of Good Citizens

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who has discussed the subject of human governments has acknowledged that there can be no stable society without justice, no justice without morality, no morality without religion, no religion without God. "It is an incontrovertible truth," observes Plato, "that if God presides not over the establishment of a city, and if it has only a human foundation, it cannot escape the greatest calamities. . . . If a State is founded on impiety and governed by men who trample on justice, it has no means of security."

The royal prophet, long before Plato, had uttered the same sentiment: "Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. Unless the Lord keepeth the city, he watcheth in vain that keepeth it." And Isaiah says: "The nation and the kingdom that will not serve Thee shall perish."

Xenophon declares that "those cities and nations which are the most devoted to divine worship have always been most durable and the most wisely governed, as the religious ages have been the most distinguished for genius." "I know not," says Cicero, "whether the destruction of piety to-

ward the gods would not be the destruction also of good faith, of human society and of the most excellent of virtues, justice."

"If you find a people without religion," says Hume, "rest assured that they do not differ much from the brute beasts."

"Never," says Rousseau, who had his lucid intervals of strong sense, "never was a State founded that did not have religion for its basis."

Machiavelli, who was not an extremist in piety, avows that good order is inseparable from religion. He brands the enemies of religion as "infamous and detestable men, destroyers of kingdoms and republics, enemies of letters and all the arts that do honor to the human race and contribute to its prosperity."

Even Voltaire admits that "it is absolutely necessary for princes and people that the idea of a Supreme Being, Creator, Governor, Rewarder and Avenger should be deeply engrained on the mind."

Legislators and founders of empires have been so profoundly impressed with the necessity of religion as the

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